

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

October 28, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson,

We write to urge you to bring Members back to Washington immediately to vote to protect funding for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). It is unacceptable that the House of Representatives has been out of session for five weeks amidst a full government shutdown, allowing partisan politics to put the nearly 7 million pregnant women, new parents, children and infants who rely on WIC in danger of losing critical resources.¹

While Democrats have repeatedly returned to Washington in an attempt to begin discussions to end the shutdown, Republicans have consistently refused to negotiate to protect health care and maintain our constituents' access to vital federal resources. People in every state rely on WIC for access to healthy foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and referrals to other services. Without these benefits, the 41% of American infants who are served by WIC are at risk of going hungry.² We demand you bring commonsense legislation to the floor to ensure that WIC remains funded until the government reopens.

While the administration has allocated some funds to keep WIC afloat during the shutdown, they are likely to run out at the end of October.³ Some states are beginning to notify the public that if the government does not open, they will have to pause distribution of WIC benefits and, in some cases, close local WIC agency offices.⁴ State leaders are advising families to turn to local food aid organizations once benefits are stalled, putting undo strain on community resources that are already facing record demand.⁵ The work that anti-hunger groups conduct is critical, but it cannot replace WIC benefits for the millions who rely on them and should not be expected to.

It is time for Congress to come together to protect the pregnant women, new mothers, babies, and young children who depend on WIC for food, education, and other essential resources. We

¹ <https://www.npr.org/2025/10/24/nx-s1-5581354/federal-shutdown-snap-wic-food-aid-ebt-hunger>

² <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/wic-program>

³ <https://www.wpr.org/news/moms-kids-could-lose-federal-food-aid-if-shutdown-drags>

⁴ <https://www.npr.org/2025/10/24/nx-s1-5581354/federal-shutdown-snap-wic-food-aid-ebt-hunger>

⁵ <https://kffhealthnews.org/news/article/food-banks-snap-benefits-federal-cuts-rural-needs/>

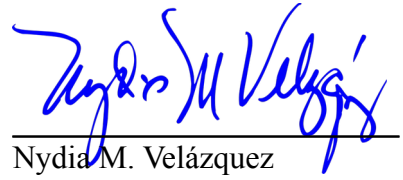
must put politics aside to end the distress that WIC recipients are experiencing and protect this program that families depend on.

We demand that you call the House back into session and bring legislation to the floor to ensure that WIC is funded through the remainder of the shutdown.

Sincerely,



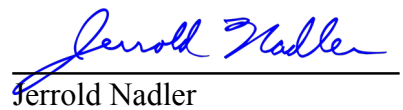
Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



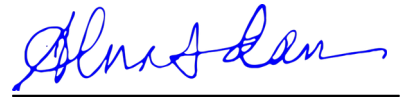
Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



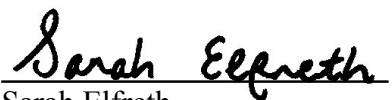
Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



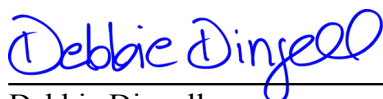
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



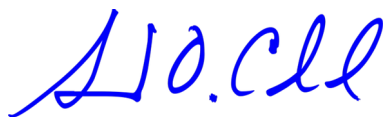
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



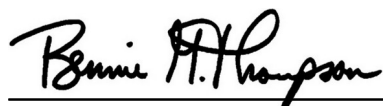
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



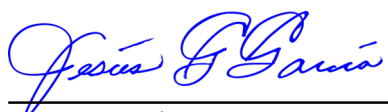
Andre Carson
Member of Congress



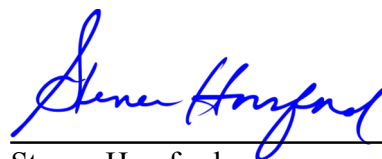
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



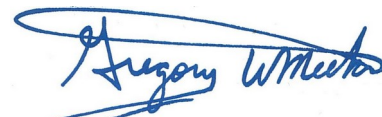
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



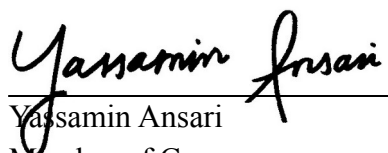
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



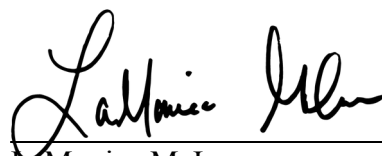
Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



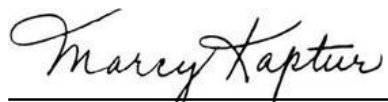
LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



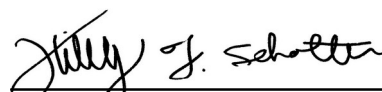
Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



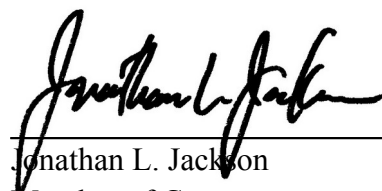
Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



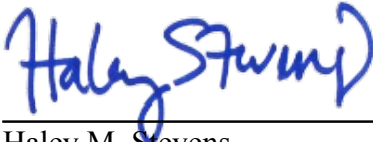
Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



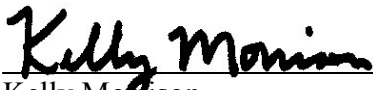
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



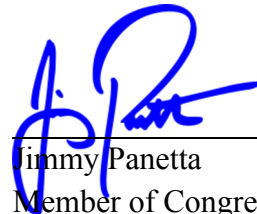
Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



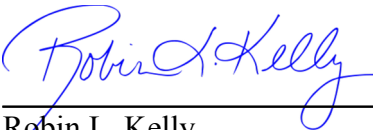
Cleo Fields
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



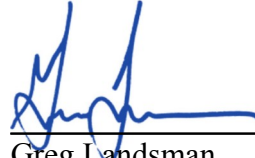
Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



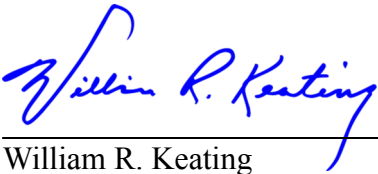
Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



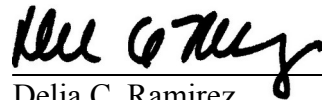
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress